

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) A connector for use in a system for the delivery of humidified
5 pressurised gases to a patient, said connector adapted to couple ~~capable of coupling~~ a first
conduit to a second conduit to provide a gaseous connection and an electrical connection
between said first and second conduits ~~or a patient in use by a patient,~~

said first and second conduits ~~and said patient interface~~ including first and second
electrical elements ~~members~~ extending within, ~~through-out~~ throughout or about ~~them~~ said
10 conduits,

said connector comprising:

a tubular ~~male portion and a female portion,~~ said male portion located on one end of said
first conduit and having a first electrical contact on its exterior, said first electrical contact
forming part of said first electrical element,

15 a tubular ~~said~~ female portion located on one end of said second conduit and having a
second electrical contact on its interior, said second electrical contact forming part of said second
electrical element,

~~wherein in use,~~ when ~~said male and female portions are connected~~ so that a gaseous
connection is formed between said first and second conduits, said first electrical contact and said
20 second electrical contact ~~meet~~ meeting when said male and female portions are connected,
~~causing said electrical means of said first conduit, said second conduit and said patient interface~~
~~to be connected as well as to cause a gaseous connection there between, where said male and~~

female portions ~~are~~ capable of being swivelled or twisted relative to one another without disrupting said gaseous connection and ~~the~~ said electrical connection between said first and second electrical contacts.

5 11. (Previously Presented) A connector according to claim 10 wherein said electrical members are heating elements capable of causing heating in at least one of said first conduit, said second conduit and said patient interface.

10 12. (Previously Presented) A connector according to claim 10 wherein said electrical members are wires that provide power to or enable sensing at one of said patient interface, said first conduit and said second conduit.

15 13. (Previously Presented) A connector according to claim 10 wherein said electrical members are at least one heating element and a wire to supply power to or enable sensing at at least one of said first conduit, said second conduit and said patient interface.